CREATED BY BRADLEY MASON

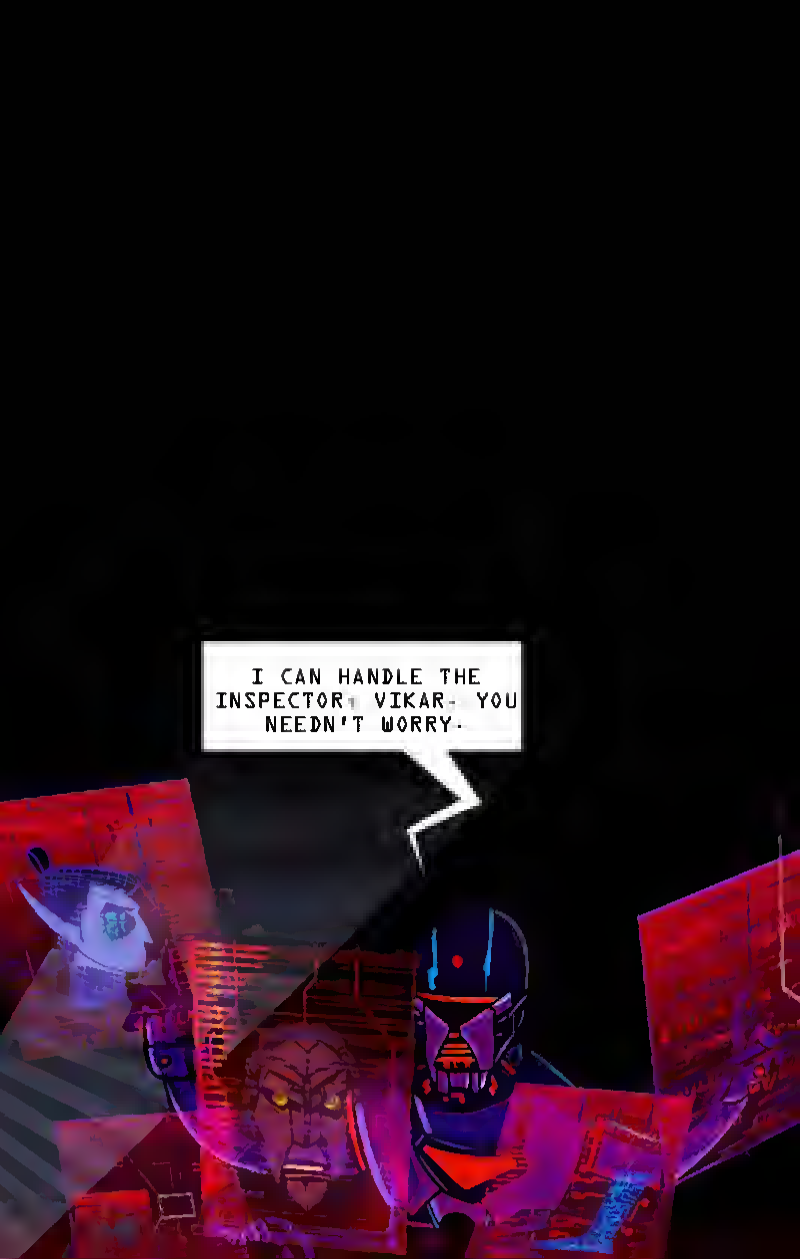
CYBERBUNK

WORDS AND LETTERS BY
SAM MACHADO
WITH
EDISON RODGERS

ART BY
CYNTHIA SOUSA MACHADO
AND
EDISON RODGERS
WITH
SAM MACHADO

SNOWNOMISH

I ZENO'S PROGENY
THERE HEN YO ARE
A ROM ED.

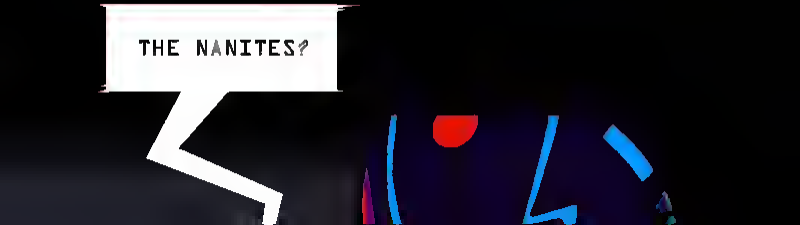

I CAN HANDLE THE INSPECTOR, VIKAR. YOU NEEDN'T WORRY.

HANDLE?
RELAX, VIKAR. I HAVE THE SITUATION IN HAND.

STARR WILL ARRIVE TOMORROW.

WE'LL MEET THE NEXT NIGHT. NO COMPLICATIONS.

THE NANITES?



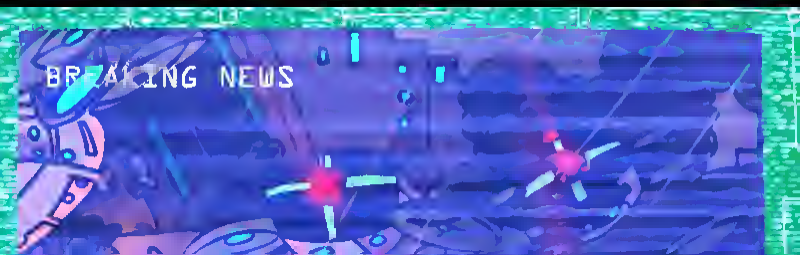
ONCE WE HAVE THE SPHERE, WE WON'T *NEED* THE NANITES.
AND IF FOR SOME UNFORSEEN REASON WE DON'T GET THE SPHERE, I'LL TAKE THE INSPECTOR'S MONOCOLE.

I'M CONFIDENT I CAN EXTRACT THE PRECURSOR CODE FROM OUR NANITE ARCHITECTURE.
WITH ACCESS TO THE SECOND AND THIRD TEMPLES WE WILL BE ABLE TO SHUT OUT ZENO AND ATRAX.
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME NOW.

ZENO'S TEAM ISN'T FAR BEHIND, SHASKHA. DON'T BE *FOOLISH*.
GET WHAT YOU NEED AND COME HOME. THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO EXPLORE YOUR *HOBBIES*, *DOCTOR*.

THE EXPLOSION SHOOK PORT NOSS'S CENTRAL DISTRICT LEAVING SMOKE BILLOWING IN THE SKY.

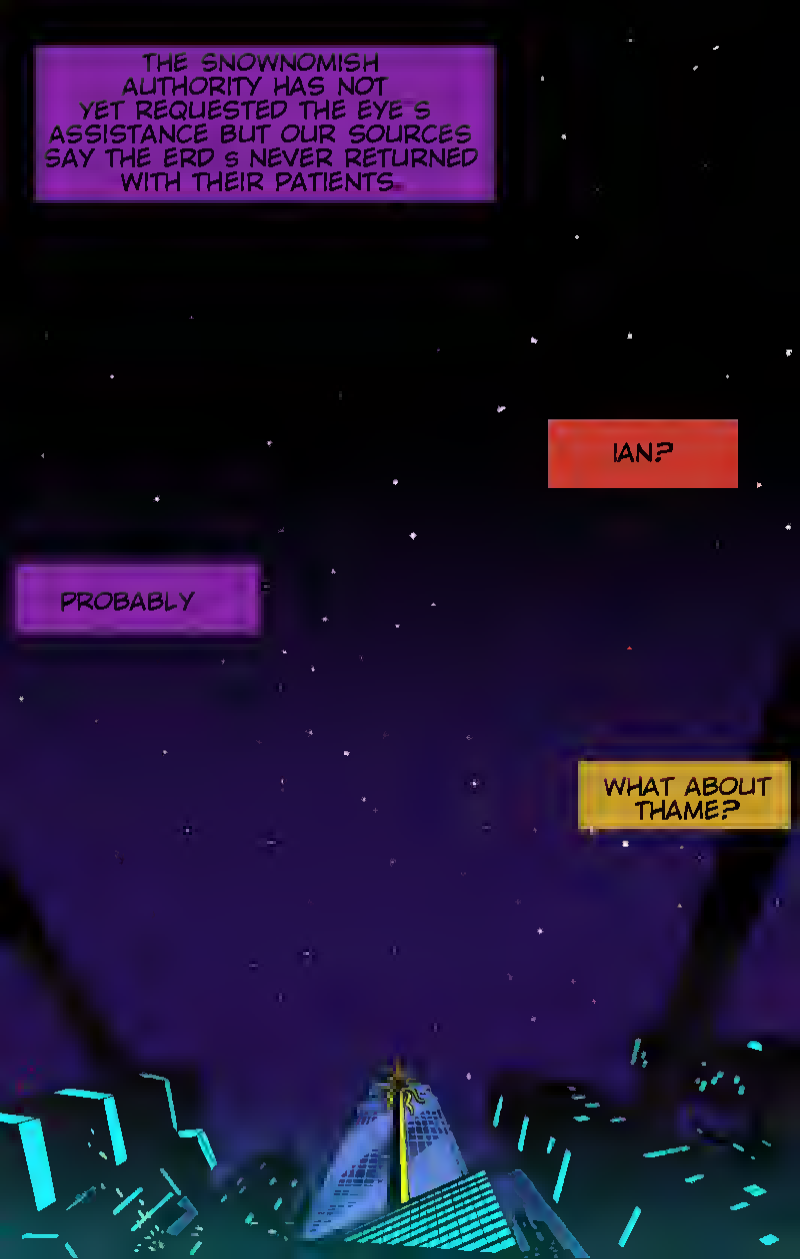
THE GNOME GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET RELEASED ANY WORD INDICATING HOW MANY HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE BLAST OR IF THERE REMAINS ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN THIS EXPLOSION AND THE FAILURE OF THE SNOWNOMISH ARTIFICIAL CLIMATE CONTROLS.

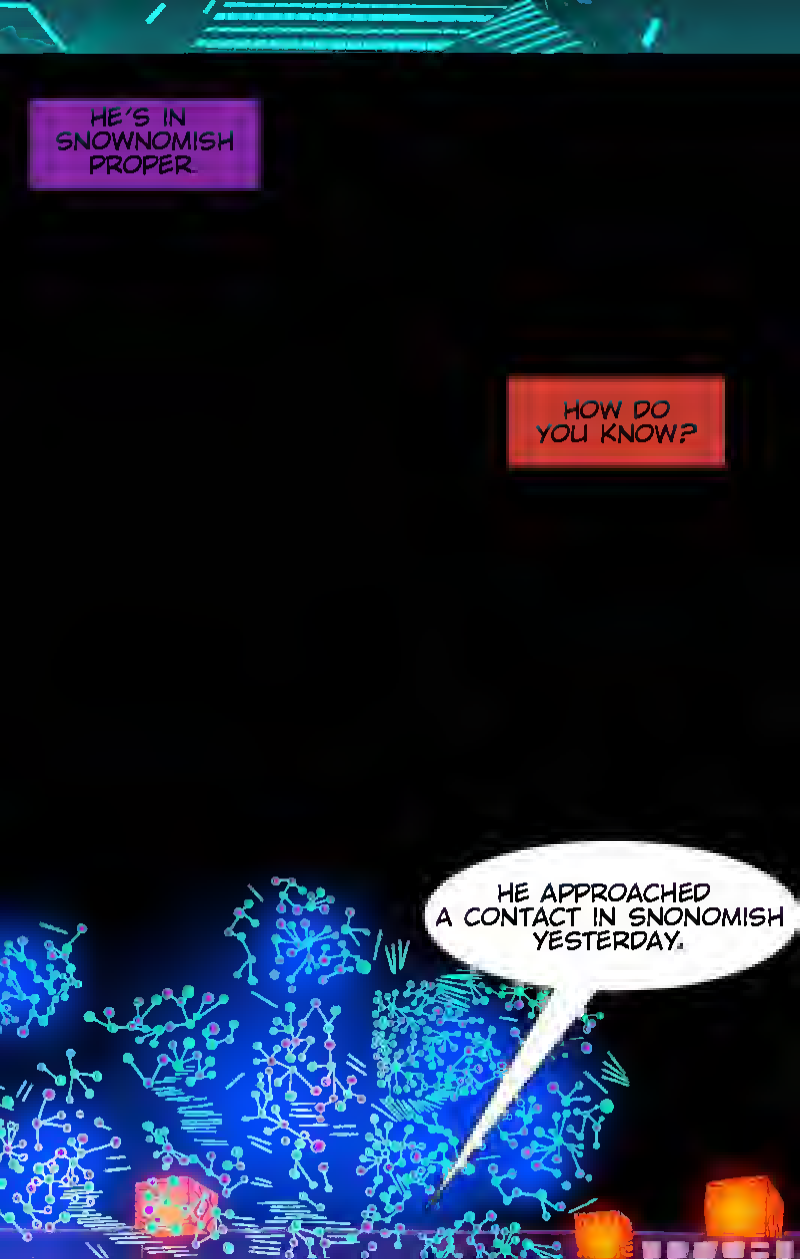


MUTE.

YOU THINK OUR TEAM IS BEHIND THIS?

IT'S *ALWAYS* OUR TEAM.


THE SNOWNOMISH AUTHORITY HAS NOT YET REQUESTED THE EYE S ASSISTANCE BUT OUR SOURCES SAY THE ERD s NEVER RETURNED WITH THEIR PATIENTS.
IAN?
PROBABLY
WHAT ABOUT THAME?

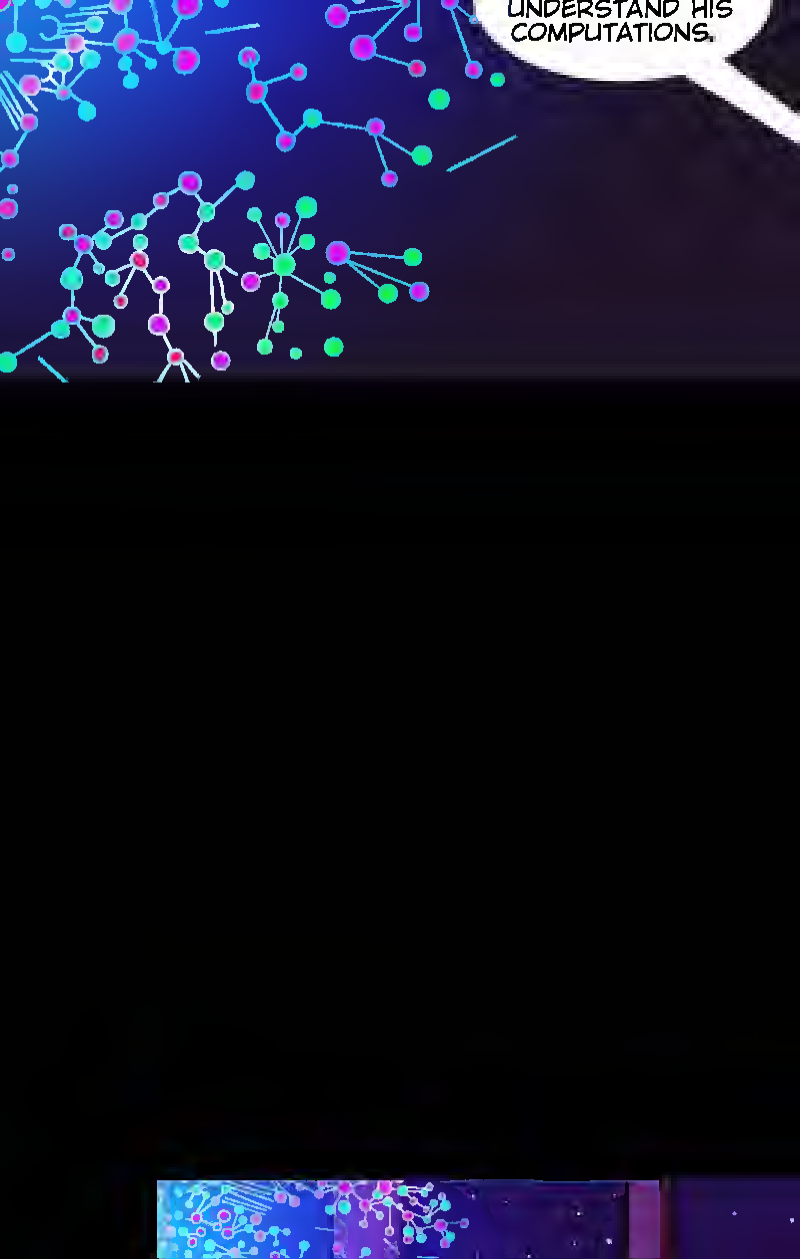

HE'S IN SNOWNOMISH PROPER.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
HE APPROACHED A CONTACT IN SNONOMISH YESTERDAY.

DID HE LEAVE A MESSAGE OR A CLUE TO UNRAVELING THIS MESS?
NOT AS SUCH, NO. BUT THAT IS WHY I'VE REQUESTED THIS MEETING IN PERSON.
THAME REQUESTED HIS CREDIT ACCOUNT REINSTATED AND TWO TICKETS TO A GALA BEING HELD IN ONE DAY FROM NOW.
WHAT? WHY?

I'M NOT SURE, SPECIFICALLY.
HOWEVER, THE GALA IS ALSO BEING ATTENDED BY THE FORGE AMBASSADOR.
THE FORGE AMBASSADOR?
DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY?

THE AMBASSADOR MUST BE STARR'S CONTACT.
I DIDN'T KNOW THE FORGE HAD AN AMBASSADOR.

IF IT IS SO, THEN THE INFORMATION WOULD COMPLETE THIS PIECE OF THAME'S EQUATION.
IT WOULD ALSO CLARIFY OTHER PIECES OF THIS TREE.
HOWEVER, IT IS SIMPLY A GUESS.
WITHOUT HIS DATA, I CAN'T


UNDERSTAND HIS COMPUTATIONS.

WHY WOULDN'T THAME CONTACT US DIRECTLY? IS HE STILL WITH THE TECH PRIESTS?
THE EYE'S CONTACT SEEMS TO SUGGEST SO.

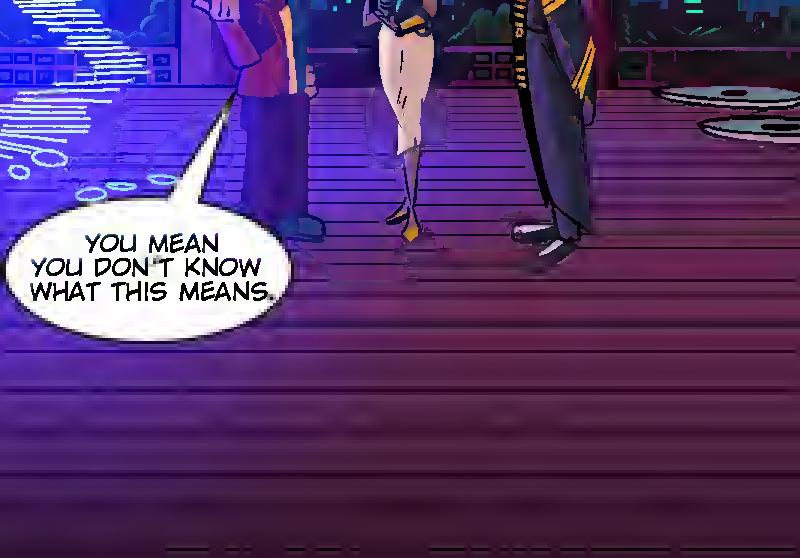
SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE USING HIM.

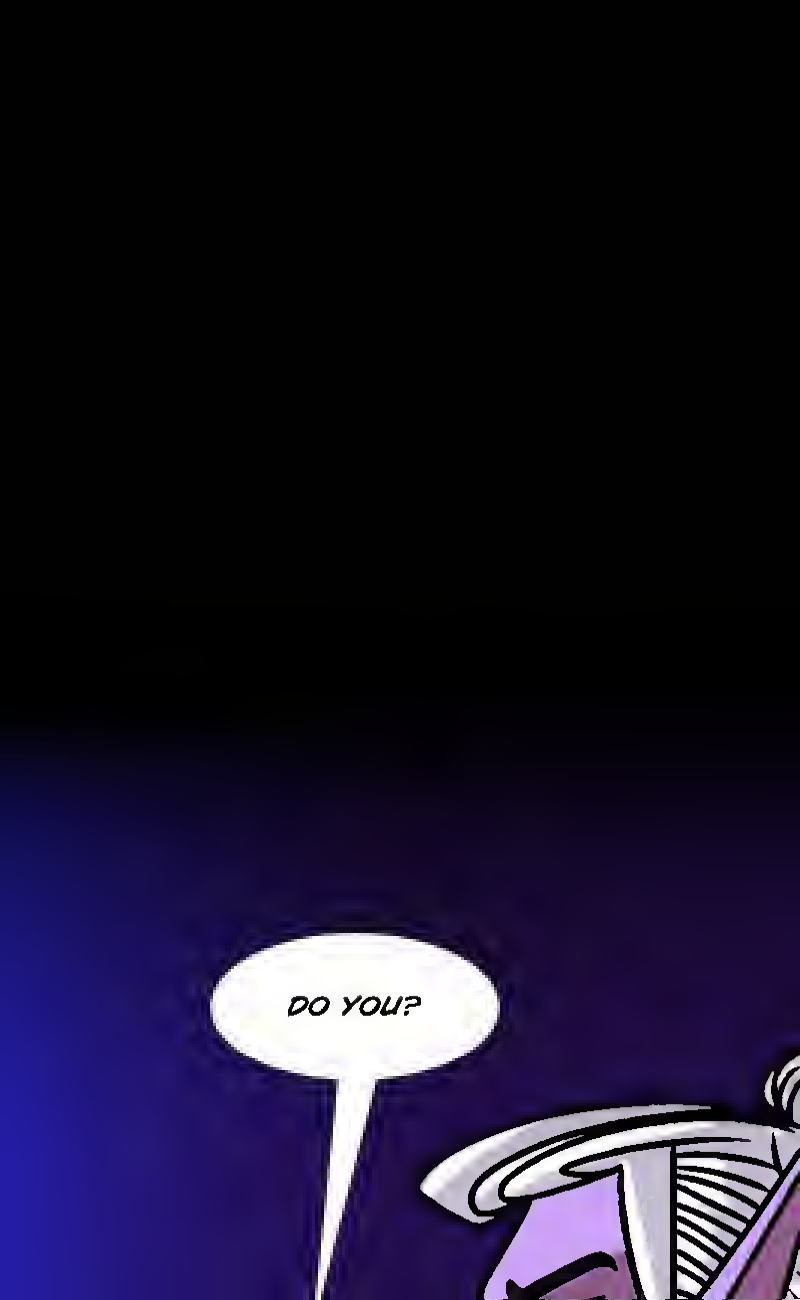
IT'S A POSSIBILITY, BUT I BELIEVE THAME KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT HE IS DOING.

I BELIEVE HE HAS PLANNED THIS AND INTENDS TO USE THE TECH PRIESTS. AND HE WILL REESTABLISH CONTACT WHEN HE THINKS IT'S SAFE.

SAFE?
IS THAT WHAT THIS TELLS YOU? BECAUSE NONE OF THIS TELLS ME ANYTHING.

NO. I'M AFRAID THESE EQUATIONS DO NOT OFFER MANY CERTAINTIES.

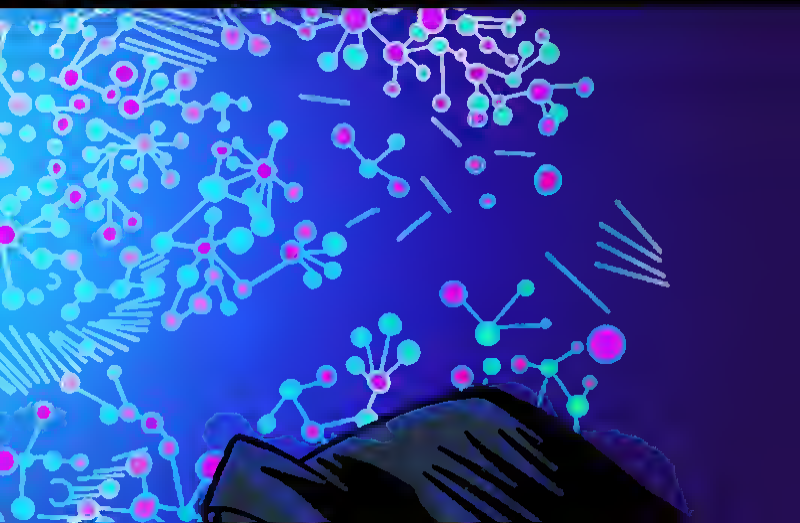

YOU MEAN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS.


DO YOU?

THIS IS WHAT I'VE BEEN TELLING YOU. I CANNOT DECIPHER THAME'S EQUATIONS.

I ALWAYS *SAID* THIS WAS SLAG. NOTHING MORE THAN AN ELABORATE GUESS.
I CANNOT READ IT BECAUSE THAME DOESN'T FULLY UNDERSTAND IT EITHER.
SO YOU'RE TELLING US THAT NOBODY KNOWS WHAT'S GOING ON?

THIS IS THE LAST THING THAME UPLOADED.
HE SAW MORE OUTCOMES THAN HE COULD UNDERSTAND WITH THE EVIDENCE AVAILABLE TO HIM.
OUR DATABASE HERE FILLED IN SOME GAPS, BUT WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT HE'S DISCOVERED.



I BELIEVE THAME IS EMPLOYING ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF UNDERSTANDING

METHODS HE LEARNED FROM THE *PRIESTESSES*.

I BELIEVE AS I'M SURE YOU'RE ALL AWARE THAT PYTHIA GOUCHE'S RETURN IS NOT A COINCIDENCE

IT SIGNALS THE COMPLETION OF A CYCLE THAT BEGAN NEARLY TWENTY YEARS AGO. WHEN CADETS THAME AND GOUCHE CHOSE DIFFERENT PATHS

PATHS AND METHODS
THAT THAME BELIEVES WERE
DESTINED TO CROSS AGAIN